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Application No.: 09/787,248
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PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 15-20 and 22-35 are pending. Applicants present amendments to claims 15 and 34. Claim 21 is canceled.

Claims 15-20 and 22-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,763,333 ("the Suzuki patent") as evidenced by Iwami et al. and Properties of Paraffinic Shellflex Oils, and in view of either U.S. Patent No. 5,723,546 ("the Sustic patent") or U.S. Patent No. 5,804,519 ("the Riswick patent"). Even though Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejection, amendments are presented to claims 21 and 34 to further prosecution. The Office Action acknowledges that dependent claim 21 is drawn to allowable subject matter (page 6 of the August 9, 2004 Office Action). The limitations of claim 21 are incorporated into independent claims 15 and 34 by the instant amendments. Claim 21 is canceled as duplicative of amended claim 15. In view of these amendments, Applicants submit that outstanding rejection is moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable reconsideration of the rejections and an allowance of all of pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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